

CLAIMS

1. A hull for an amphibious vehicle with an underside submersible in water and at least one strake extending
5 lengthwise along at least part of the underside, wherein the strake at least in part has a pair of surfaces which both extend downwardly from the hull at an angle of 75 degrees to 90 degrees to the horizontal when the hull is level, each of the surfaces when immersed in water capable of giving rise to a lateral force
10 on the hull during turning of the hull in water.
2. A hull for an amphibious vehicle with an underside submersible in water and at least a first pair of strakes extending parallel to each other lengthwise along at least part
15 of the underside, wherein each strake at least in part has a pair of surfaces which both extend downwardly from the hull at an angle of 75 degrees to 90 degrees to the horizontal when the hull is level, each of the surfaces when immersed in water capable of giving rise to a lateral force on the hull during
20 turning of the hull on water.
3. A hull as claimed in claim 2 wherein the strakes of the said pair of strakes are located one each on either side of a keel provided centrally on the underside of the hull, the
25 strakes being spaced equidistantly from the keel.
4. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the or each strake has a forward part which is substantially triangular in transverse cross-section and a
30 rearward section which is substantially quadrilateral in transverse cross-section.
5. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the or each strake extends along the majority of and not
35 the complete length of the underside of the hull.
6. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the hull has a keel and the or each strake does not extend lower than the lowest part of the keel.

7. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the underside of the hull has a plurality of removable panels and at least one strake extends over at least one removable panel.

8. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein at least one section of the or each strake is formed integrally with the hull.

9. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein at least one section of the or each strake is formed independently of the hull and then fixed to the hull, the said section of strake being a rearward section of the strake.

10. A hull as claimed in claim 8 wherein at least one section of the or each strake is formed independently of the hull and then fixed to the hull, the said section of strake being a forward section of the strake.

11. A hull as claimed in claim 9 or claim 10 wherein at least one independently formed section of strake is located extending over a removable panel in the underside of the hull so that the independently formed section of strake can be removed to permit removal of the removable panel.

12. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims which has a planing surface and a maximum deadrise angle on the planing surface of 6 degrees.

13. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the pair of surfaces of at least one section of the at least one strake are convergent such that the section of the strake reduces from root to tip.

14. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the pair of surfaces of at least one section of the at least one strake are divergent such that the section of the strake increases from root to tip.

15. A hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims which can be propelled through water to a speed where sufficient hydrodynamic lift is achieved for the hull to plane.
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16. Use of a hull as claimed in any one of the preceding claims as the hull of an amphibious vehicle.
17. An amphibious vehicle incorporating the hull as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 15.
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18. An amphibious vehicle as claimed in claim 17 further comprising a jet drive used to propel the vehicle through water in a marine mode to a speed where sufficient hydrodynamic lift is achieved for the vehicle to plane.
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19. A hull substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to or as shown in the accompanying drawings.
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20. Use of a hull substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to or as shown in the accompanying drawings.
21. An amphibious vehicle substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to or as shown in the accompanying drawings.
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